

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2432
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2001
MEDICAL FACILITIES FOR FOREIGN PATIENTS
SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned `Nayee Swasthya Neeti Ki Ghoshna` published in the Rashtriya Sahara dated September 5, 2001;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether medical facilities will be provided to foreign patients on payment basis;
- (d)
- (d) whether the Government would prevent the VIPs of our country on spending crores of rupees in foreign countries on treatment after this new policy is implemented;
- (e)
- (e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (f)
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. A draft National Health Policy, 2001 has been formulated and circulated to the State Governments, concerned Central Government Departments, Non-Governmental Organisations, eminent medical professionals and public at large for comments. The suggestions received are being examined and the National Health Policy, 2001 after finalization will be placed before the Cabinet for approval. The draft policy covers various aspects related to health care such as financial resources equity, infrastructure, medical education, research, private sector and its regulation etc.

(c) The draft National Health Policy, 2001 envisages encouraging the supply of services to patients of foreign origin on payment. Rendering of such services on payment in foreign exchange will be treated as `deemed exports` and will be made eligible for all fiscal incentives extended to export earnings.

(d) to (f) No, Sir. Denial of appropriate medical treatment for VIPs including treatment in foreign countries is not desirable.